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Cardiganshire County Council.

Education Committee.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1923.

School Medical Officer :

L. MEREDITH DAVIES

M.A., M.D., B.Ch. (Oxon.), D.P.H. (Oxon.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.),
L.R.C.P. (Lond.)

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*To the Chairman and Members of the
Cardiganshire Education Committee.*

*County Health Offices,
56, Portland Street,
Aberystwyth.*

April, 1924.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1923. The Board of Education require 12 copies of this Report before the 1st April.

I have attempted to avoid any repetition of what I stated in previous reports, and to make the Report as short as possible.

I wish to express my thanks to Members of the Committee, the District Medical Officers, Teachers, and Staff of this Department for their valuable advice and co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. MEREDITH DAVIES.

Extent of Area, etc.

The area of Urban Districts is 8,492 acres, and the population, 19,046.

The area of Rural Districts is 434,697 acres, and the population, 41,835.

The area of the whole County is 443,189 acres, and the population, 60,881.

The above figures are taken from the Census returns of 1921.

There are 108 schools, with 114 Departments under the authority of the Committee.

Number on Registers, Average Attendance, etc.

It will be seen from the following Table that the number on the Register has decreased, but that the average percentage has increased, this has been effected in spite of the departure of Attendance Officers.

TABLE I.

	No. on Registers.	Average Attendance.	Percentage.
Total 31st March, 1924 ...	7094·	6259·8	88·2
Total 31st March, 1923 ...	7100·4	6214·1	87·5
Total 31st March, 1922 ...	7421·9	6350·5	85·5
Total 31st March, 1921 ...	7573·1	6370·1	84·1

Staff.

The Staff of the School Medical Department consists of the School Medical Officer who is also County Medical Officer, two Clerks in the Office, a Superintendent Nurse and three whole time Nurses, and in addition 16 Nurses of 14 Nursing Associations who act as part-time School Nurses.

Report on the School Buildings in the County inspected by the School Medical Officer.

The following is a report on School Buildings during 1923. At the time of writing this report a great many changes will

have been made as a result of the work of the Architects during the summer of 1923.

LLANDYSSUL AREA.

ADPAR SCHOOL.—Building needs re-colouring. Dampness needs attention. Needs extra window behind. Pump out of order. No dry earth kept.

PONTGARREG.—Needs re-colouring. Dampness needs attention. Playground rough and muddy. Water needs analysis. Extra window needed behind.

TREGROES.—Building attended to in 1922.

PENMORFA.—Needs re-colouring. Some dampness. Playground is rough. Pump out of order. No dry earth kept. A fire is needed in Standard II. Room.

BRYN.—Building attended to in 1922. Playground muddy. Needs extra stove in big room. Needs larger windows behind, especially in Class Room.

CAPEL CYNON.—Building attended to in 1922. Fire in Class Room smokes badly and blackens the wall. Stove in main room broken. Windows needed in back wall.

RHYDLEWIS.—Playground rough. No washing basins. Porch very small. A new fire grate has been put in. Needs extra windows, and window in Class Room needs lowering.

BRONGEST.—Pump out of order. Stove smokes badly. Needs larger and more windows in back wall.

BEULAH.—Very damp in Class Room.

ABERBANC.—Painted 1922. Damp owing to deficient slates. A new playground has been given by Sir Martin Lloyd. Buckets need emptying weekly and not fortnightly. Windows need enlarging and bigger panes of glass instead of the small ones.

PONTSHAEN.—Muddy playground. Needs stove in large room. Needs larger windows.

LLANDYSSUL C. OF E.—Muddy playground. Large room draughty owing to three doors.

ST. DAVID'S.—Walls dirty over the range. Dampness in large room. Playground rough. Needs new well as when there is water, probably surface. Dry earth system, but buckets are used, wearing out.

GLYNARTHEN.—Needs re-colouring.

LLANDYSSUL COUNCIL.—Classroom needs re-painting. Ceiling cracked. Fire smoky in big room. Needs an additional stove.

CWM COY.—Dampness. Needs larger windows.

LAMPETER DISTRICT.

PETERWELL.—New premises have been completed.

LLANFAIN.—Cleaning is done better. Pump not properly protected. Buckets not emptied regularly. Cold in large room.

LLANGYBI.—Damp. Needs re-colouring. Pump is unprotected. Needs more open windows. Gallery in Class Room should be removed.

NEW COURT.—Needs re-plastering in Class Room. Dampness. Needs re-colouring. No dry earth. Stove out of order.

TREFILAN.—Damp. Small playground. Windows very small.

SILIAN.—Playground rough.

LLANWENOG.—Buckets need to be emptied weekly and not monthly. Stove needs something underneath to prevent fire. Needs larger windows in Class Room.

BRYN ROAD.—Needs re-colouring. Some dampness.

BETTWS BLEDRWS.—In very dirty condition. Needs re-colouring and re-plastering. Playground rough and uneven. No plugs for washing basins.

BLAENAU.—Needs new pump as water has a heavy deposit.
A larger window needed in back wall.

LLANWNEN.—Some overcrowding. School was made for 80
and 94 attend School. Infants Room made for 24,
but 34 attend.

CELLAN.—Dampness. Cesspool should be covered in and
discontinued. Needs more windows in back wall.

ABERYSTWYTH AREA.

GORS.—Playground small and rough.

LLANFIHANGEL-Y-CREUDDYN.—Damp. Needs re-colouring.
West wall falling and at present propped up by poles.
Playground rough. Porch too small. Needs plain
glass in windows.

TALIESIN.—Dampness. Needs repainting. A railing is needed
at bottom of playground, a wall would keep out
the light.

YSGUBORYCOED.—Some dampness.

TALYBONT.—Boys' closets to be rebuilt. One window in
Standard I. Room needs opening.

ABERFFRWD.—Dampness. Playground rough and small. Cold
in east end of room. Needs two windows in back
wall.

CHANCERY.—To be cleaned and coloured. Playground muddy.
Buckets must not be emptied into river.

BORTH COUNCIL.—Needs repainting. Plaster on top of dado
needs renewing. Dampness is cured. Some troughs
broken. Seats in offices broken.

BORTH C. OF E.—Top of ventilator broken. Playground muddy.
A drain under the outside tap is needed to take
away water.

TREFEURIG.—Needs re-colouring. Dampness. Unused Class
Room should be done up, has six good windows and
a large room. No washing basins, etc. Better
ventilation and doors needed in offices. Lighting
in Class Room poor.

ELERCH.—Dampness. Playground rough. There is dry rot in the floor. Fire is smoky and cold at end of room.

PENRHYNCOCH.—Dampness and plaster needs renewing. Playground muddy. Offices are not kept clean.

TRISANT.—Damp and needs re-colouring. Playground very small.

DEVIL'S BRIDGE.—Dampness attended to, but still some in Second Class Room. Playground rough. Water supply needs better protection. Only one washing basin.

CAPEL SION.—Damp and needs re-colouring. Playground muddy.

CWMYSTWYTH.—Water should be connected to School. More open windows needed. Large room cold owing to cellar below.

RHYDYPENNAU.—Has been painted. Water needs testing.

COMMINS COCH.—Damp in Class Room. Playground wet and water rushes into offices and School. Offices Middens. Fire smokes badly. Windows behind need enlarging.

CLARACH.—West wall damp. Playground muddy. Heating in Main Room poor. Windows need plain glass.

MEFENYDD.—Damp. Troughing need attention. Wood outside is rotting. Playground rough and muddy. Porch is damp. Gate of filter bed is broken. Window in back wall needs enlarging.

LLANDDEINIOL.—Needs re-colouring. Drain of washing basins in blocked. Urinal drains are blocked and door of offices is broken. More open windows needed.

BRYNHERBERT.—Needs re-colouring. Dampness has been attended to. Playground rough. Valve of pump is defective. One window is broken.

LLANILAR.—Dampness. Small and children play in a dangerous road. Grate in Class Room is still broken. Windows need large panes.

LLANAFAN.—In good condition.

COFADAIL.—Damp. Needs re-colouring. Needs partition to divide room. Playground rough and small. Cold and needs extra stove. Windows need plain glass.

CWMPADARN INFANTS.—Needs re-painting. Damp in north corner.

CWMPADARN MIXED.—Damp in east wall. Back to earth. Plaster is falling. Playground is small. Lavatory very dark. Boarding outside Class Room should be removed.

LLANGWRYFON.—Dampness. Plaster cracking. Playground uneven. Needs a partition in large room.

GOGINAN.—Needs re-colouring. Dampness. Plaster is cracking. Water should be analysed. Buckets should be cleaned weekly. Stove does not work. Cleaning is done badly.

PENLLWYN.—Dark in Class Room. Dampness. Small playground. School should be connected to main water supply.

PENPARKE.—Has been painted. Playground very small.

PONTERWYD.—Floor in poor condition. Needs re-colouring. Dampness. Coal shed is needed. Stove out of order.

YSTUMTUEN.—Back to earth. Damp and needs re-colouring. Needs more open windows.

CARDIGAN AREA.

LLANGOEDMORE.—Well cleaned. Playground is small.

LLECHRYD.—Painted in 1922.

ST. DOGMAEL'S.—Needs re-painting. Infants' room overcrowded. Ventilation, heating and lighting poor.

CARDIGAN C. OF E.—Building is good. Offices need white-washing. Stove needed in Long Room. Needs re-colouring.

VERWIG.—Painted 1922. Dampness in east wall.

PENPARC.—Painted 1922. Damp over fire place.

ABERPORTH COUNCIL.—In good condition, but damp in verandah and terrace is sinking. Needs a pump.

BLAENPORTH.—School has been painted.

CARDIGAN BOYS'.—As for last year

CARDIGAN GIRLS'.—New Cookery Room and Class Room needs re-colouring. Needs washing basins.

CARDIGAN INFANTS'.—Needs painting. Needs partition in Large Room. All windows should be made to open. Needs stove in Large Room.

LLANDYGWYDD.—Painted 1922. Damp.

TREGARON DISTRICT.

LLANGEITHO.—Needs painting. Damp. Needs larger and lower windows.

STRATA FLORIDA.—Back to earth. No waste pipe to basins.

SWYDDFFYNON.—Painted 1920. Pump has arrived but not erected.

BWLCHYLLAN.—Dampness. Painted 1922. Overcrowding in Class Room.

BLAENCARRON.—Damp. Needs painting. Windows need mending. In poor state. Ceiling falling. Playground is rough. No washing basins. Offices in bad repair. Ventilation is poor. Lighting needs larger windows.

PONTRHYDFENDIGIAID.—Damp. Needs re-painting. Wood rotting inside. Playground rough and muddy. Ventilation pipe of well has been cut. Well needs protection. Safety pipe of hot water system needs extension.

TREGARON C. OF E.—Poor condition. Damp and plaster falling, and needs re-colouring. Playground is rough. Two water jugs are needed. Offices in poor condition, and badly ventilated. Windows in Class Room need opening. Chimney smokes. Opaque glass needed in front windows.

II

TREGARON COUNCIL.—Damp. Pump is out of order.

LLEDROD.—Damp and dirty, needs painting. Playground small and muddy. Offices not cleaned properly. Fire falling away in Class Room. Needs extra stove in Large Room.

BRONANT.—Needs painting.

PENUWCH.—Dampness. Painted in 1921. Playground is rough. Pump is out of order. Extra stove needed.

TANYGARREG.—Damp. Painted 1922.

GARTHELI.—Damp. Painted 1922. Playground rough. Water needs analysis.

CASTELL FLEMISH.—Painted 1921. Damp in west and north-west wall. Playground is rough. Pump needs protection, valve is poor. Needs extra stove.

LLANDDEWI BREFI.—Damp, and needs re-colouring. Playground is being raised by stones. New offices erected. Ventilator looks like falling, needs immediate attention. Gallery in Class Room should be removed.

YSBYTTY.—Damp, and needs painting. Playground is rough. Only one basin for washing. Windows need attention.

ABERAYRON AREA.

ABERARTH.—Damp. and needs painting, Pump not arrived. Needs stove. Window in back needs enlarging. Glass in windows needs changing.

LLANNON.—Painted 1920. Damp by belfry. Playground rough and uneven. No washing basins. Ventilation in Class Room poor. Lighting poor owing to bank behind.

CILIAU PARK.—Plaster falling. Window broken. Damp in north-east wall. Needs re-painting. Playground is rough.

CROSS INN (NEW QUAY).—Damp, needs re-colouring. Window needed in back wall.

CROSS INN (LLANNON).—Damp. Playground rough. Needs larger windows behind, and new window in Class Room.

LLANARTH.—Needs painting. Damp. Playground is rough. Troughing broken. Stones loose in chimney. Window frames broken. Needs more open windows. Heating poor.

MYDROILYN.—Damp. Playground is rough. Valve of pump poor. No wash basins. Needs extra stove.

TALGARREG.—Damp in big room. Needs re-painting. Playground rough. No washing basins. Offices need whitewashing. Needs window in back wall.

DIHEWID.—Plaster falling. Playground rough and muddy. Pump has not worked. Drain from urinal should be extended. Master's house is extremely damp and needs attention.

PENNANT.—Painted 1914. Damp. Playground rough and small.

ABERAYRON C. OF E.—Re-painted 1921. Needs more open windows. Needs plain glass in windows.

ABERAYRON COUNCIL.—Painted 1916. Damp. Playground is rough. Porch needs cementing. Needs stove in Main Room.

CILCENNIN.—Playground rough. Pump needs protection. Dry from May to Christmas. Glass is opaque.

CRIBYN.—Playground rough. Water needs analysis. Shed for emptying buckets should be used no longer.

FELINFACH.—Damp, and needs re-painting. Playground rough. School needs better cleaning.

GWENLLI.—Plaster falling. Damp. Playground is muddy. Pump is still out of order. Cleaning is done badly. Heating is poor.

PENLON.—Class Room wall is cracked. Damp. Water should be analysed. Needs window in back wall.

NEW QUAY.—Damp in Infants' Room. Needs painting. Needs larger windows.

The condition of the Schools has improved considerably since 1919. There is, however, still need for improvement, especially in the lighting. A number of schools have windows facing the children and not at their backs. The result is that there is considerable eye strain which eventually results in defective vision.

FURNITURE.—There are still a great number of long desks without backs, which are detrimental to the physical condition of the children.

The furniture of the Schools should be such that the children are comfortable during the long hours which they have to sit in School.

Slates are gradually disappearing, but I have noticed that in some instances the unhealthy practice of spitting on the slates for cleaning them still continues.

LAVATORIES.—The majority of the Schools are supplied with washing basins, but the absence of towels, soap and water makes the presence of basins superfluous.

I would call the attention of the Committee to the amount of school requisites heaped together on window sills, ventilations and cupboards. These should be placed away in lockers or cupboards as their presence about the School results in the accumulation of dust and makes the School untidy. In some Schools garden implements will be found in the School Room.

OFFICES.—The majority of the Schools have now either the dry earth system or buckets. In very few Schools, however, is dry earth kept, so that the scientific principle of the dry earth system is lost.

In some Schools there has been difficulty in the disposal of contents of buckets. No buckets should be emptied into a stream or river. If no ground is available, a field should be hired for the disposal of bucket contents.

HEATING.—The fire places in some large rooms are placed at one end so that heating is not distributed evenly throughout the room. The central heating of Llanarth is still very imperfect.

SCHOOL CLEANING.—This is done far from perfectly, and in the instances which I have pointed out are done very poorly.

PLAYGROUNDS.—Very few of the playgrounds are cemented or asphalted. In wet weather many of them are muddy and wet, so that a great deal of dirt is carried into the School.

WATER SUPPLY.—I have very little to add to my report of 1922.

Routine Medical Inspection.

The following groups of children were examined in the year 1923 :—

1. ENTRANTS.—Those entering School since last Medical Inspection.
2. Children between 8 and 9 years of age.
3. LEAVERS.—Those leaving before the next Medical Inspection, and children over 12.
4. SPECIAL.—Any cases referred by the School Nurse or by Head Teachers.
5. RE-INSPECTIONS.—Children found defective at the last Medical Inspection.

The following shows the number of children examined during the year.

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	569
Intermediates	...	...	...	...	...	756
Leavers	...	...	...	...	...	688
Special	...	...	...	...	...	66
Re-Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	536
TOTAL						2615

The reduction in the total numbers is due to the fact that a great number of the re-inspections were omitted if they suffered from carious teeth only.

UNCLEANLINESS.

52 boys and 261 girls had nits and vermin of hair at the routine inspection, while 18 boys and 21 girls had dirty bodies.

Far too little attention is paid to the presence of nits in the hair. A nit is a potential louse and not attached to the hair, unless a louse has reached the head.

Scabies and body vermin was not found to any great extent amongst the school children.

It is not pleasant either for the School Medical Officer or Nurses to point out uncleanness to parents.

Vermin causes anæmia, sores, enlarged glands, and for these reasons alone every effort should be made to keep the children clean.

The School Medical Officer and the Nurses should have the full support of the Education Committee and the parents of clean children in their efforts to promote personal cleanliness in School as it is for the benefit of the clean children to a great extent that these efforts are made.

No legal action was taken during the year against the parents. Any cases with whom the Nurse cannot deal are reported to the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

NUTRITION.

203 boys and 117 girls suffered from poor nutrition.

The Scheme of the School Medical Officer which has been presented to the Committee and which has been received very favourably by them with one or two exceptions, has been brought into practice in several Schools in the County. The Scheme was discussed at many meetings consisting of Teachers and Local Education Committees.

The results of mid-day meals in School as shown at Rhydypennau, Glandyfi, Llancynfelin, Tregaron C. of E. and Ysbytty Ystwyth, to mention only five of the Schools who have adopted the Scheme, reward fully the Committee for the time spent in discussion. I trust that before next winter every School area will have its canteen Committee who will not be satisfied with a mid-day meal of tea and bread and butter for the children attending School.

ENLARGED TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

This complaint is very common amongst school children. The Scheme of the School Medical Officer has been approved by your Committee and the Board of Education. In this scheme the School Medical Officer will do the surgical work and Local Practitioners will act as Anæsthetists. Only the children of parents who are necessitous will be treated in this way. Those who are able to pay are expected to make arrangements for themselves.

PALPABLE CERVICAL GLANDS.

419 boys and 391 girls suffered from enlarged and palpable glands. These were due to carious teeth, enlarged tonsils, dirty heads, impetigo, and other septic foci.

19 boys and 21 girls suffered from external eye diseases such as Blepharitis, Conjunctivitis, etc.

EAR DISEASES.

8 boys and 15 girls suffered from obstruction due to wax and 3 boys and 1 girl had Otorrhœa.

TEETH.

308 boys and 342 girls had less than 4 decayed teeth, 593 boys and 558 girls had more than 4 decayed teeth. This means that 86 per cent. of the total children at routine inspection needed dental treatment.

If the Education Committee desire to improve the health of the School child a dental scheme whereby every school child can be treated should be put into practice immediately.

The Scheme of the School Medical Officer was submitted on several occasions, but has not yet been passed.

HEART CIRCULATION.

28 boys and 37 girls had organic disease of the heart.

15 boys and 24 girls had anæmia.

LUNGS.

20 boys and 34 girls had chronic bronchitis.

6 boys and 6 girls had definite tuberculosis.

58 boys and 63 girls had suspected tuberculosis and were referred to the Tuberculosis Officer.

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS :—

12 boys and 9 girls had suspected tuberculosis of bones, glands and joints, and 3 boys and 2 girls had suspected tuberculosis of other parts of the body.

151 cases were referred to the Tuberculosis Officer, 26 attended.

Of the 26 who attended, 17 were suspicious or pending diagnosis, 4 had non-active diseases, 4 had pulmonary tuberculosis and 1 non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Of the re-inspections, 72 were referred to the Tuberculosis Officer and 11 attended. Of this 11, 7 had suspicious tuberculosis or were pending diagnosis, 1 had no active disease, 1 had pulmonary-tuberculosis, 1 non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

The following Tables show the numbers referred to the Tuberculosis Officer in each District.

TABLE II. ROUTINE.

District.	Aberystwyth Urban.		Aberystwyth Rural.		Tregaron.		Aberayron.		Lampeter.		Cardigan.		Llandyssul.	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
No. visited T. O. ...	3	1	...	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	5	1	2	4
Susp. or Pending ...	3	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	1	5	...	1	3
No active Disease	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
Pulmonary T.B. ...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
N.-Pulmonary T.B.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pre-Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. Definite ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other than T.B. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Number referred ...	8	11	16	19	9	7	12	12	6	6	8	11	6	10

TABLE III. RE-EXAMINATIONS.

District.	Aberystwyth Urban.		Aberystwyth Rural.		Tregaron.		Cardigan.		Aberayron.		Lampeter.		Llandyssul.	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
No. visited T. O. ...	2	1	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	1
Susp. or Pending ...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1
No active Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Pulmonary T.B. ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
N.-Pulmonary T.B.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. Definite ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pre-Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other than T. B. ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. referred ...	7	3	8	10	8	4	6	3	6	2	5	3	2	5

5 boys and 4 girls were notified under Form B as suffering from tuberculosis and confirmed by the Tuberculosis Officer and General Practitioner.

2 boys and 1 girl had non-pulmonary tuberculosis and 3 boys and 3 girls had pulmonary tuberculosis.

In addition to the above, the following were notified by General Practitioners :—

Pulmonary, 3 boys and 3 girls.

Non-pulmonary, 3 boys.

The total number of School children during the year were 18.

The following were admitted to Institutions for tuberculosis during the year :—

Pulmonary, 4 boys and 4 girls.

Non-pulmonary, 2 boys and 1 girl.

NERVOUS DISEASES.

2 boys and 1 girl suffered from Epilepsy and 1 boy and 2 girls had other nervous diseases.

SKIN.

The following number of children were found to be suffering from skin diseases :—

			Boys.		Girls.
Ringworm, body...	...	...	2	...	1
Ringworm, head	...	...	3	...	2
Impetigo ...	...	...	8	...	3
Other diseases	...	...	12	...	7

RICKETS.

76 boys and 41 girls were found suffering from Rickets.

DEFORMITIES.

63 boys and 32 girls suffered from deformities other than Rickets.

Table IV. shows the deformities.

TABLE IV.

Old Infantile Paralysis	...	...	...	...	7
Keloid	...	...	...	...	2
Hernia	...	...	...	...	16
Deflected Septum	...	...	...	...	3
Old tuberculosis hip	...	...	...	...	1
Double Uvula	...	...	...	...	6
Spinal curvature	...	...	...	...	2
Demoid cyst	...	...	...	...	2
Thyroid	...	...	...	...	16
Undescended testicle	...	...	...	...	6
Hydrocoele	...	...	...	...	1
Naevus of shoulder	...	...	...	...	2
Naevus of Arm	...	...	...	...	1
Naevus of side	...	...	...	...	1
Hypothyroidism	...	...	...	...	2
Old talipes	...	...	...	...	1
Old burn of knees	...	...	...	...	1
Old burn of chest	...	...	...	...	2
Old injury to eye	...	...	...	...	1
Fractured clavicle	...	...	...	...	1
Old appendix scar	...	...	...	...	2
Tongue tied	...	...	...	...	2
Hermaphrodite	...	...	...	...	1
Pigeon chest	...	...	...	...	6
Supra clavicular pad of feet	...	...	...	...	1
Enlarged gland in groin	...	...	...	...	2
Severe fracture of arm	...	...	...	...	1
Old amputation of left arm	...	...	...	...	1
Long dislocation of hip	...	...	...	...	3
Ganglion	...	...	...	...	2
Old scar of glands	...	...	...	...	1
Old tuberculosis of rib	...	...	...	...	1
Foot amputated	...	...	...	...	1
Old ostea myelitis of leg	...	...	...	...	1
Alopæcia	...	...	...	...	1

Arched palate	...	...	...	...	...	I
Old burn of arm	...	...	...	...	...	II
Congenitive hip	...	...	...	...	...	I
Old hernia operation scar	...	...	...	...	...	I
Old fractured ulna	...	...	...	...	...	I
Deformed thumbs	...	...	...	...	...	I
Old burns of body	...	...	...	...	...	I
Variecocile	...	...	...	...	...	I
Distended abdomen	...	...	...	...	...	I
Spina bifida	...	...	...	...	...	I
Moningocoele	...	...	...	...	...	I
Drooping eyelid	...	...	...	...	...	I
Long urvula	...	...	...	...	...	I
Bicornuate urvula	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cataract of both eyes	...	...	...	...	...	I
Cataract of right eye	...	...	...	...	...	I
Empyena scar	...	...	...	...	...	I
Polypus	...	...	...	...	...	I

SPEECH.

38 boys and 17 girls had defective speech.

MENTAL CONDITION.

65 boys and 52 girls were dull and backward.

12 boys and 5 girls were mentally defective.

1 epileptic moral imbecile is at a Special School at Much Hadham.

ORTHOPÆDICS.

2 boys were sent for treatment to the Oswestry Hospital.

DEAF AND DUMB.

1 boy and 1 girl are at Institutions for deaf and dumb.

VISION.

Under 6/18.					Boys.	Girls.
Right eye	...	...	...	...	92	94
Left Eye	...	...	...	...	79	101

6/18 and over.

Right eye	...	...	...	...	51	...	49
Left eye	...	...	...	...	42	...	59
Squint	...	...	...	...	12	...	17
Hypermetropio	...	...	...	...	3	...	4

105 boys and 175 girls were referred for refraction.

29 boys and 26 girls had no defect.

SCHOOL NURSING.

The following change has been made in the Staff since my previous Report :—

Miss C. J. Richards has resigned and Miss M. Williams was appointed in her place to work in the Tregaron District.

The following Nursing Associations received a grant of £50 per Nurse for the part-time Health Visiting and School Nursing in their Districts.

The first two Nursing Associations have two Nurses, and the remainder, one Nurse:—Lampeter, Cardigan, Llandyssul, Henllan, Glandyfi, Llechryd, Rhydlewys, New Quay, Llangranog, Aberporth, Aberayron, Llanafan, Bow Street, Borth.

Owing to the fact that the County Council decided to reduce the grant from £50 to £25 in the case of Nursing Associations who received grants from Carmarthenshire as well as Cardigan-shire, Llanybyther Nursing Association and New Castle Emlyn terminated their agreement with the County Council and the Education Committee.

Lampeter have agreed to do the work previously done by the Llanybyther Nurse and receive a grant of £25 for the extra travelling.

VISITS PAID BY HEALTH VISITORS AND SCHOOL NURSES DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1923.

TABLE V.

Total number of visits made	...	...	...	16646
Number of visits to Infants	...	...	...	8287
1st visits	...	...	...	786
Re-visits	...	...	...	7501
Number of visits to M. & C. W. Centres	...	...	...	118
Number of visits to Tuberculosis cases	...	...	...	1438

Number of visits to infectious cases	155
1st visits	58
Re-visits	97
Number of visits to mentally defectives ...	319
1st visits	59
Re-visits	260
Visits to Midwives	53
Number of Schools visited with School Medical Officer	82
Number of Schools visited alone	879
Number of visits to homes of School children	4847
1st visits	1915
Re-visits	2932
Visits to Clinic with Ophthalmic Surgeon	Nil

The number of Schools closed for infectious diseases during the year 1923 was very small. Table VI. gives the closures during the year.

CLOSURES DUE TO INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

TABLE VI.

Name of School.	No. of Days closed.	Reason for Closure.	By whom closed.
New Quay	14	Diphtheria	School Med. Officer
Swyddffynon	5	Illness (? Influenza)	" "
Llangeitho	18	Whooping Cough	" "
Ponrhydfendrgaid	8	Severe Colds	" "
Strata Florida	8	Illness (Bad Colds)	" "
Cross Inn Llanon	8	Coughs and Colds	District "
Llanon	9½	"	" "
Gwenlli	5	"	" "
Trefilan	19	Colds, Whooping Cough and Chickenpox	" "
Silian	16	Influenza and Colds	" "
Peterwell	10	Diphtheria	" "
Pennant	7	Colds	" "
Llanddeiniol	14	Diphtheria	School "
Ystumtuen	25	Whooping Cough	" "
Penuwch	14	"	District "
Aberbank	15	Measles	" "
Dihewid	20	"	" "
Cellan	20	Mumps	" "

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.

The parents of 573 children were present at the Medical Inspections.

VACCINATION.

Out of 2,079 children examined, 1,576 or 75 per cent. were vaccinated.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

There is a voluntary Committee in Aberystwyth who meet and make arrangements under this Section.

CONTINUATION SCHOOLS.

There is one Continuation School in Lampeter, and the same age groups are examined as in Elementary Schools.

I have nothing further to add to my Report of 1922 with regard to :—

Playground Classes.

School Camps.

Open-air Class Rooms.

Day Open-air Schools.

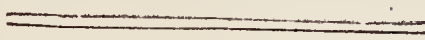
Residential Schools.

School Baths.

Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies.

Nursing Schools.

Secondary Schools.



APPENDIX.

- TABLE VII. Gives the total result of Routine Medical Inspection.
- TABLE VIII. Gives the Age Groups.
- TABLE IX. Gives the number of Children Examined at Routine Medical Inspection.
- TABLE X. Is the return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.
- TABLE XI. Gives the Defects found by Medical Inspection during the year 1923.
- TABLE XII. Is a return of Defects treated during the year.
- TABLE XIII. Gives the Chief Defects at Medical Inspection in each District.

TABLE VII.

Diseases.	Group 1.		Group 2.		Group 3.		Special Cases.		Total.	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Number Inspected ...	297	272	369	387	347	341	35	31	1048	1031
CLOTHING										
Unsatisfactory ...	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	1
FOOTGEAR.										
Unsatisfactory ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
CONDITION OF HEAD										
Nits only ...	20	58	19	104	10	86	—	2	49	250
Pediculli present ...	2	5	1	5	—	—	—	1	3	11
CONDITION OF BODY.										
Dirty ...	4	5	7	7	7	9	—	—	18	21
NUTRITION.										
Below normal and bad ...	30	25	93	53	80	38	—	1	203	117
NOSE AND THROAT.										
Tonsils slightly enlarged ...	86	68	99	117	107	78	6	3	298	266
Tonsils much enlarged ...	65	57	77	97	65	83	4	2	211	239
Adenoids slight ...	84	61	104	111	113	79	8	3	309	254
Adenoids marked ...	70	60	76	102	69	89	4	3	219	254
Other Disease ...	111	95	170	154	134	139	4	3	419	391
EXTERNAL EYE DISEASE.										
Blepharitis ...	1	2	1	7	7	5	1	1	10	15
Conjunctivitis ...	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	1	2	3
Corneal opacities ...	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	3	1
Other disease ...	1	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	4	2
EAR DISEASE & HEARING.										
Obstruction R. ...	3	4	2	4	3	6	—	1	8	15
Obstruction L. ...										
Otorrhœa ...	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	3	1
TEETH.										
Less than 4 decayed ...	64	72	91	110	151	157	2	3	308	342
Four or more decayed ...	179	157	253	249	156	149	5	3	593	558
HEART AND CIRCULATION										
Organic disease ...	8	9	9	6	9	19	2	3	28	37
Anæmia ...	4	4	6	13	5	7	—	—	15	24
Other Disease ...	6	—	6	7	3	6	—	—	15	13

TABLE VII.—(continued).

Diseases.	Group 1.		Group 2.		Group 3.		Special Cases.		Total.	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
LUNGS.										
Chronic Bronchitis ...	12	16	6	9	2	8	—	1	20	34
Tuberculosis ...	—	—	1	2	2	3	3	1	6	6
Tuberculosis suspected ...	10	18	22	27	22	14	4	4	58	63
NERVOUS DISEASE.										
Epilepsy ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	1
Chorea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Disease ...	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	2
SKIN.										
Ringworm body ...	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1
Ringworm head ...	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	—	3	2
Impetigo ...	4	2	3	—	—	1	1	—	8	3
Other disease ...	1	2	6	1	5	4	—	—	12	7
RICKETS.										
Deformity slight and marked ...	11	8	38	15	27	18	—	—	76	41
DEFORMITIES.										
Deformity present...	17	6	26	13	19	12	1	1	63	32
TUBERCULOSIS, NON-PULMONARY.										
Glandular, bones and joints ...	2	4	4	1	5	4	1	—	12	9
Other forms ...	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	3	2
SPEECH.										
Defective Articulation ...	13	7	15	4	10	6	—	—	38	17
MENTAL CONDITION.										
Dull and backward ...	16	9	26	16	23	26	—	1	65	52
Mentally defective, all grades ...	—	—	6	—	4	2	2	3	12	5
VISION.										
6/9 Rt. ...	5	9	20	33	41	26	5	2	71	70
Lt. ...	2	9	22	36	38	34	2	2	64	81
6/12 Rt. ...	1	5	7	11	12	8	1	—	21	24
Lt. ...	2	5	6	7	7	8	—	—	15	20
6/18 Rt. ...	1	—	10	6	18	13	—	2	29	21
Lt. ...	—	1	12	14	6	10	3	1	21	26
6/24 Rt. ...	—	1	5	9	4	5	3	1	12	16
Lt. ...	—	—	7	9	2	8	1	3	10	20
6/36 Rt. ...	3	—	1	3	4	7	2	2	10	12
Lt. ...	3	—	3	4	3	6	2	3	11	13
Squint ...	3	5	6	5	3	5	—	2	12	17
Hypermetropia ...	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	2	3	4

TABLE VIII.

AGE GROUPS.

	4—5	5—6	6—7	7—8	8—9	9—10	10—11	11—12	12—13	13—14	Over 14
Male ...	12	149	109	58	209	79	38	48	246	87	12
Female	6	115	100	52	220	87	45	48	251	100	7
Total ...	18	264	209	110	429	166	83	96	497	187	19

TABLE IX.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Code Group Inspections :—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Entrants ...	297	272	569
Intermediates ...	369	387	756
Leavers ...	347	341	688
		TOTAL	2013

Number of other Routine Inspections—Nil.

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Number of Special Inspections	35	31	66
Number of Re-Inspections	290	246	536
		TOTAL	602

TABLE X.

RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA.

			Boys	Girls	Total
Blind (including partially blind).	(i.) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind ...	...	...	...
		Attending Public Elementary Schools ... ..	...	1	1
		At other Institutions...	...	...	...
		At no School or Institution ...	...	...	...
	(ii.) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind ...	...	...	...
		Attending Public Elementary Schools ... ..	...	2	2
		At other Institutions...	...	...	...
		At no School or Institution ...	...	...	...
Deaf (including deaf and dumb and partially deaf).	(i.) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf... ..	...	...	...
		Attending Public Elementary Schools ... ..	...	...	...
		At other Institutions...	1	1	2
		At no School or Institution	...	...	...
	(ii.) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially deaf.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf ...	...	...	...
		Attending Public Elementary Schools ... ..	...	...	...
		At other Institutions...	...	...	...
		At no School or Institution	...	...	...
Mentally Defective.	Feeble-minded (cases not notifiable to the Local Control Authority.	Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ... ..	...	1	1
		Attending Public Elementary Schools	8	6	14
		At other Institutions ... ..	...	...	...
		At no School or Institution	1	...	1
	Notified to the Local Control Authority during the year.	Feeble-minded	2	3	5
		Imbeciles	1	2	3
		Idiots ... ..	...	1	1
Epileptics.	Suffering from severe epilepsy.	Attending Certified Special Schools for Epileptics ...	...	...	...
		In Institutions other than Certified Special Schools ...	...	...	...
		Attending Public Elementary Schools	5	1	6
		At no School or Institution ...	...	...	...

TABLE X.—(continued).

			Boys	Girls	Total
	Suffering from epilepsy which is not severe.	Attending Public Elementary Schools At no School or Institution ...	......	......	......
Physically Defective.	Infectious pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board At other Institutions... .. At no School or Institution ...	Included in list below.		
	Non-infectious but active pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board At Certified Residential Open Air Schools At Certified Day Open Air Schools At Public Elementary Schools At other Institutions... .. At no School or Institution ...	8 51	5 43	13 94
	Delicate children, <i>e.g.</i> , pre or latent tuberculosis, malnutrition, debility, anæmia, &c.	At Certified Residential Open Air Schools At Certified Day Open Air Schools At Public Elementary Schools At other Institutions... .. At no School or Institution ...	... ... 352 ... ...	... ... 1 ... ...	... ... 687 1 ...
	Active non-pulmonary tuberculosis.	At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board At Public Elementary Schools At other Institutions... .. At no School or Institution ...	1 12 ... ...	... 9	1 21
	Crippled Children (other than those with active tuberculous disease), <i>e.g.</i> , children suffering from paralysis, etc., and including those with severe heart disease.	At Certified Hospital Schools... .. At Certified Residential Cripple Schools At Certified Day Cripple Schools At Public Elementary Schools At other Institutions At no School or Institution ...	... ... ... 245 ... 1	... ... ... 170 ... 2	... ... ... 415 ... 3

TABLE XI.

A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1923.

DEFECT OR DISEASE. (1)	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.	SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.
	No. of Defects Requiring Treatment. (2)	No. of Defects Requiring Treatment. (3)
Malnutrition	319	1
Uncleanliness	349	3
SKIN.		
Ringworm, Scalp	5	—
Ringworm, body	3	—
Scabies	11	—
Impetigo	10	1
Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)... ..	8	—
EYE.		
Blepharitis	23	2
Conjunctivitis	4	1
Keratitis	—	—
Corneal Opacities	4	—
Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	536	38
Squint	27	2
Other Conditions	6	—
EAR.		
Defective Hearing	22	1
Otitis Media	4	—
Other Ear Diseases	—	—
NOSE AND THROAT.		
Enlarged Tonsils only	999	15
Adenoids only	1018	18
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	2017	33
Other Conditions	14	2
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-tuberculous)	794	6
Defective Speech	55	—
Teeth—Dental Diseases	1788	13
HEART AND CIRCULATION.		
Heart Disease, Organic	60	5
Heart Disease, Functional	28	—
Anæmia	39	—
LUNGS.		
Bronchitis	53	1
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	—	—
TUBERCULOSIS.		
Pulmonary :		
Definite	8	4
Suspected	113	8

TABLE XI.—(continued).

DEFECT OR DISEASE. (1)	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.	SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.
	No. of Defects Requiring Treatment. (2)	No. of Defects Requiring Treatment. (3)
Non-Pulmonary :		
Glands	9	—
Spine	—	—
Hip	2	—
Other Bones and Joints	3	—
Skin	1	—
Other Forms	1	—
NERVOUS SYSTEM.		
Epilepsy	2	1
Chorea... ..	—	—
Other Conditions	3	—
DEFORMITIES.		
Rickets	117	—
Spinal Curvature	2	—
Other Forms	91	2
Other Defects and Diseases	142	6

B.—NUMBER OF *individual children* FOUND AT *Routine MEDICAL*
INSPECTION TO REQUIRE TREATMENT (EXCLUDING
UNCLEANLINESS AND DENTAL DISEASES).

GROUP. (1)	NUMBER OF CHILDREN.		Percentage of Children found to require Treatment. (4)
	Inspected. (2)	Found to require Treatment. (3)	
CODE GROUPS :—			
Entrants	569	390	68·5
Intermediates	756	589	77·9
Leavers	688	473	68·7
Total (Code Groups)	2013	1452	72·1
Other Routine Inspections ... ..	...	...	...

TABLE XII.

RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER, 1923.

TREATMENT TABLE.

GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness).

DISEASE OR DEFECT. (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Otherwise. (3)	Total. (4)
SKIN.			
Ringworm, Scalp	2	—	2
Ringworm, body	4	2	6
Scabies	8	—	8
Impetigo	9	—	9
Other Skin Disease	7	—	7
MINOR EYE DEFECTS. (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)	12	3	15
MINOR EAR DEFECTS	—	2	2
MISCELLANEOUS (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	—	1	1
TOTAL	42	8	50

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding
Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.).

Defect or Disease.	Number of Defects dealt with.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Errors of Refraction (in- cluding Squint). (Opera- tions for squint should be recorded separately in the body of the Report)	221	11	8	240
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.). ...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	221	11	8	240

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :—

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	221
(b) Otherwise	...	...	...	...	19

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles :—

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	72
(b) Otherwise	...	...	...	...	92

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.				
Received Operative Treatment.			Received other forms of Treatment.	Total number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.	Total.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
—	6	6	*1009	1015

* Breathing exercises.

GROUP V.—UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

- (i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses, 9.9 (1069 total visits).
- (ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses, 23,465 (average inspection per child, 36).
- (iii.) Number of individual children found unclean, 226.
- (iv.) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority, 138.
- (v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—
 - (a) Under the Education Act, 1921, Nil.
 - (b) Under School Attendance Byelaws, Nil.

TABLE XIII. CHIEF DEFECTS AT MEDICAL INSPECTION IN EACH DISTRICT.

Defects.	Aberystwyth		Tregaron.		Aberayron.		Lampeter.		Cardigan.		New Castle Emlyn.	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Number examined	386	378	134	117	166	191	105	84	108	110	149	151
Poor Nutrition	67	41	24	10	42	24	22	12	27	9	21	21
Tonsils slightly enlarged	114	102	42	27	45	45	34	17	27	36	36	39
Tonsils much enlarged	70	96	24	36	33	42	24	18	24	24	36	23
Adenoids slightly enlarged	118	99	42	27	49	41	34	15	28	33	38	39
Adenoids much enlarged	68	100	23	40	33	46	23	21	24	26	38	21
Palpable Glands (cervical)	163	171	46	46	124	68	48	26	49	39	49	41
Less than 4 decayed Teeth	95	135	38	34	56	53	32	26	33	40	54	54
4 and more decayed Teeth	251	211	81	71	85	110	54	45	48	54	74	67
Organic Disease of Heart	11	13	3	6	5	8	4	5	4	3	1	2
Anæmia	4	11	1	5	3	4	2	1	5	1	-	2
Bronchitis	4	11	3	4	4	9	4	1	2	2	3	7
Tuberculosis	3	1	1	1	2	1	-	1	-	1	-	1
Suspected Tuberculosis	20	29	9	7	8	7	5	5	7	9	9	6
Rickets	18	10	15	9	13	7	9	5	7	3	14	7
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	4	1	1	5	1	1	-	2	2	1	3
Vaccinated	565		219		300		147		131		214	
Parents present	267		30		128		33		38		77	

